

Message Text

SECRET

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EXDIS

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PARM
SUBJECT: DRAFTING GROUP MEETING NO. 205, APRIL 7, 1978
(SALT TWO-1685)

SUMMARY: U.S. PROBED APRIL 4 REVISION OF SOVIET CRUISE
MISSILE RANGE DEFINITION, POINTING OUT THAT IT PENALIZES
MISSILE SYSTEM WHICH EMPLOYS HORIZONTAL RATHER THAN
VERTICAL MANEUVERS. SOVIETS RESPONDED ALONG STANDARD LINES,
ATTACKING U.S. PROPOSAL AS "RUBBER-BAND" DEFINITION AND
REITERATING THAT EFFECTIVENESS OF MISSILE SYSTEM NOT
LEGITIMATE SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION. U.S. RAISED PRE-
LIMINARY QUESTIONS ABOUT SOVIET ASBM PACKAGE PRESENTED IN
APRIL 5 PLENARY AND SOVIET SIDE AGREED TO RESPOND LATER.
END SUMMARY.

1. U.S. PRESENTED EXAMPLES OF HOW TWO CRUISE MISSILE SYS-
TEMS WITH SAME INHERENT CAPABILITIES AND SAME EFFECTIVE
CAPABILITIES WOULD BE TREATED DIFFERENTLY BY SOVIET
DEFINITION, DEPENDING ON WHETHER OR NOT THEY EMPLOYED
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LATERAL MANEUVERS. KARPOV REJECTED EXAMPLES AS IRRELEVANT
BECAUSE TWO SEPARATE SYSTEMS, WITH DIFFERENT STANDARD DE-
SIGN MODES, WERE REPRESENTED. HE REITERATED FAMILIAR LINE
THAT EFFECTIVENESS OR INEFFECTIVENESS OF WEAPON SYSTEMS NOT
OUR PROBLEM AND THAT ONLY TASK BEFORE DRAFTING
GROUP WAS TO ESTABLISH DEFINITION WHICH WOULD IMPLEMENT
GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT ON 600 AND 2500 KM LIMITS. EX-

PANSION OF RUBBER-BAND DEFINITION, IN CASE OF 600 KM CEILING, TO PERMIT MISSILE TO GO 900 KM, OR EVEN UP TO 2000, NOT PERMISSIBLE. NEW SOVIET DEFINITION INCLUDES FUEL EXHAUSTION CRITERION BECAUSE THIS IS ONE OF THE MAIN INDICATORS LIMITING RANGE. THIS DOES NOT ABOLISH PREVIOUS SOVIET STATEMENTS ON STANDARD DESIGN MODE BUT IT DOES "GO IN DIRECTION OF QUESTIONS" ASKED PREVIOUSLY BY U.S. SIDE. FREW POINTED OUT THAT SOVIET DEFINITION ALSO RUBBERY AND THAT FUEL DEPLETION BY ITSELF DOES NOT ESTABLISH RANGE BECAUSE MANNER IN WHICH FUEL BURNED, I.E., DIFFERENCES IN SPEED AND ALTITUDE, NEEDS TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

2. U.S. POSED SEVERAL QUESTIONS RE NEW SOVIET PACKAGE ON ASBMS, FOCUSED PARTICULARLY ON CHANGES FROM PREVIOUS SOVIET PROPOSALS. KARPOV INDICATED HIS SIDE WOULD STUDY U.S. QUESTIONS.

3. NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, APRIL 10.
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